IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) An electrophoretic display panel for displaying a picture and subsequently displaying a subsequent picture comprising:

- a pixel having

- an electrophoretic medium comprising first and second charged particles, the first charged particles having a first optical property, the second charged particles having a second optical property different from the first optical property, the first and the second charged particles being able to occupy positions in a common region of the pixel, the common region comprising at least three substantially separate sub-regions;

- an optical state depending on the positions of the particles in the common region, and

- transition control means comprising:

- electrodes for receiving potentials, each one of the electrodes being associated with one of the sub-regions, and

- drive means being arranged to control the potentials to control the transition of at least a first number of the first particles and at least a second number of the second particles being in respective separate sub-regions of the common region for displaying the picture, to separate sub-regions of the common region for displaying the subsequent picture,

wherein the transition control means are further arranged to control the first number of the first particles and the second number of the second particles to always be in separate sub-regions of the common region during the transition.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously amended) A display panel as claimed in claim 1 characterized in that

- a first one of the sub-regions provides a first reservoir for the first particles

substantially non-contributing to the optical state of the pixel, and

- a second one of the sub-regions provides a second reservoir for the second particles substantially non-contributing to the optical state of the pixel,
- a third one of the sub-regions substantially contributes to the optical state of the pixel, and
- the transition comprises:
  - a first sub-transition wherein the particles in the third sub-region for displaying the picture are brought to one of the first and second sub-regions and subsequently
  - a second sub-transition wherein the particles of the other of the first and second sub-region are brought to the third sub-region for displaying the subsequent picture.

5. (Previously amended) A display panel as claimed in claim 1 characterized in that

- a first one of the sub-regions provides a first reservoir for the first particles substantially non-contributing to the optical state of the pixel, and
- a second one of the sub-regions provides a second reservoir for the second particles substantially non-contributing to the optical state of the pixel,
- a third one and a fourth one of the sub-regions each substantially contribute to the optical state of the pixel, and
- the transition comprises:
  - a first sub-transition wherein the particles in the third and the fourth sub-regions for displaying the picture are brought to their respective reservoirs, and subsequently
  - a second sub-transition wherein the particles are brought from their respective reservoirs to the third one and the fourth sub-regions for displaying the subsequent picture.

6. (Previously amended) A display panel as claimed in claim 1 characterized in that

- a first one of the sub-regions provides a first reservoir for the first particles substantially non-contributing to the optical state of the pixel, and

- a second one of the sub-regions provides a second reservoir for the second particles substantially non-contributing to the optical state of the pixel,
- a third one and a fourth one of the sub-regions each substantially contribute to the optical state of the pixel, and
- the transition comprises:
  - a first sub-transition wherein the particles in the third and the fourth sub-regions for displaying the picture that will be absent in the third one and the fourth one of the substantially separate regions for displaying the subsequent picture are brought to their respective reservoirs, and subsequently
  - a second sub-transition wherein the particles which are absent in the third and fourth sub-regions for displaying the picture that have to be present in the third and fourth sub-regions for displaying the subsequent picture are brought from their respective reservoirs to the third and/or the fourth sub-regions for displaying the subsequent picture.

7. (Previously amended) A display panel as claimed in claim 1 characterized in that
- the pixel has a viewing surface for being viewed by a viewer,
- the electrodes have substantially flat surfaces facing the particles, and
- the surfaces are substantially parallel to the viewing surface.

8. (Original) A display panel as claimed in claim 7 characterized in that the surfaces of the electrodes are present in a substantially flat plane.

9. (Previously amended) A display panel as claimed in claim 1 characterized in that
- the pixel has a viewing surface for being viewed by a viewer,
- the electrodes have substantially flat surfaces facing the particles,
- the surfaces of the electrodes being associated with sub-regions that are substantially contributing to the optical state of the pixel are substantially parallel to the viewing surface, and
- the surfaces of the electrodes being associated with sub-regions that are substantially non-contributing to the optical state of the pixel are substantially perpendicular to the viewing surface.

10. (Previously amended) A display panel as claimed in claim 1 characterized in that

- a first one of the sub-regions provides a first reservoir for the first particles,
- a second one of the sub-regions provides a second reservoir for the second particles, and
- the display panel further comprises first decoupling means to reduce the influence of the potential of the electrode associated with the first reservoir on the position of the second particles.

11. (Original) A display panel as claimed in claim 10 characterized in that the display panel further comprises second decoupling means to reduce the influence of the potential of the electrode associated with the second reservoir on the position of the first particles.

12. (Previously presented) A display panel as claimed in claim 11 characterized in that the first and the second decoupling means are realized by the electrophoretic medium comprising a hysteresis effect.

13. (Original) A display panel as claimed in claim 11 characterized in that the first and the second decoupling means comprise a first and a second gate electrode for receiving a first and a second gate potential, the first and the second gate electrode being present between the electrodes associated with the first and the second reservoir.

14. (Previously amended) A display panel as claimed in claim 13 characterized in that the first gate electrode is present between the electrode associated with the first reservoir and the electrode associated with a third one of the sub-regions and the second gate electrode is present between the electrode associated with the second reservoir and the electrode associated with the third sub-region.

15. (Previously presented) A display panel as claimed in claim 14 characterized in that , in operation, the potentials of the electrodes associated with the first and the second

reservoir and the potential of the electrode associated with the third sub-region are substantially constant in time.

16. (Previously presented) A display panel as claimed in claim 11 characterized in that the first and the second decoupling means comprise a first particles repulsive layer present between the electrode associated with the first reservoir and the electrode associated with a third sub-region, and a second particles repulsive layer present between the electrode associated with the second reservoir and the electrode associated with the third sub-region.

17. (Previously presented) A display panel as claimed in claim 11 characterized in that the first and the second decoupling means comprise a first membrane through which a passage of the first particles is determined by a first threshold, the first membrane being present between the electrode associated with the first reservoir and the electrode associated with a third sub-region, and a second membrane through which a passage of the second particles is determined by a second threshold, the second membrane being present between the electrode associated with the second reservoir and the electrode associated with the third sub-region.

18. (Previously presented) A display device comprising the display panel as claimed in claim 1 and a circuitry to provide image information to the display panel.

19. (Currently amended) Method of driving an electrophoretic display panel for displaying a picture and subsequently displaying a subsequent picture, the electrophoretic display panel comprising:

- a pixel having
  - an electrophoretic medium comprising first and second charged particles, the first charged particles having a first optical property, the second charged particles having a second optical property different from the first optical property, the first and the second charged particles being able to occupy positions in a common region of the pixel, the common region comprising at least three substantially separate sub-regions, and

- an optical state depending on the positions of the particles in the common region;
- the method comprising controlling a transition of at least a first number of the first particles and at least a second number of the second particles in respective sub-regions in the common region for displaying the picture to separate sub-regions in the common region for displaying the subsequent picture,

wherein the first number of the first particles and the second number of the second particles are controlled to always be in separate sub-regions during the transition, and wherein the transition comprises a sub-transition.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) The electrophoretic display panel as claimed in claim 1 characterized in that said first charges particles have the same electric polarity as the second charge particles.

22. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 19 characterized in that said first charges particles have the same electric polarity as the second charge particles.